A New Species of Chinese Plectranthus

RV

JAMES SINCLAIR

(With Plate CCLXI)

Plectranthus gesneroides J. Sinclair. Sp. Nov.

Sect. Isodon.

Species haec floribus similibus ad *P. Bulleyanum* Diels approximat sed corolla paulo latiore et longiore discrepat. Habitu et dispositu foliorum *P. macranthum* Hook. f. revocat sed scapis gracilibus et inflorescentia laxissima distincta est.

Herba ad 25 cm. alta, rhizomate lignoso repente. Caules adscendentes, simplices, graciles, praesertim basi dense hirsuti, superne tenuiter. Folia breviter petiolata vel superiora subsessilia ; lamina 2–8 cm. longa, 3–4 cm. lata, ovato-elliptica, papyracea, crenata, basi integra, apice acuta vel obtusiuscula, supra subtusque pilis appressis conspersa. Inflorescentia laxissime paniculato-racemosa; cymae triflorae, terminales et axillares; bractae ovato-ellipticae, integrae, 5 mm. longae; bracteolae minutae setaceae; pedunculi graciles hirsuti, 10–25 mm., vulgo 20 mm. longi; pedicelli circ. 6 mm. longi. Calyx 4 mm. longus, hirsutus, usque ad medium in dentes 5 subaequales acuminatos fissus. Corolla lavendulacea, extus leviter pilosa, 75 mm. longa, 4 mm. lata; tubus cylindricus basi gibboso, labio superiore 4-fido, lobulis apice rotundatis, inferiore naviculari; stamina inclusa; nuculae immaturae globosae, fuscae, punctatae.

"Mu-li, China. On limestone cliffs in the wood. Alt. 9,000 feet. Flowers pale lavender blue, very fragrant. 8th September, 1921." Collector F. Kingdon Ward, No. 4942.

Type in Herbarium, Royal Botanic Garden, Edinburgh.

A distinct species with crenate leaves, slender unbranched scapes, a very lax inflorescence and large flowers.

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NOTES R.B.G. EDIN.



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